**4d Page 52 AUDIOSCRIPT**

Upper Intermediate Student’s Book

Life

1.28

**J = Jake; T = Tom**

**J:** Hey, Tom, how was *The Lion King*?

**T:** I loved it … I’m not generally a fan of musicals …

**J:** No, me neither … I never feel particularly inspired by the music in them … which should really be the whole point of them … with a few exceptions perhaps … like *West Side Story* or *Grease* which have fantastic music … So what was so good about it?

**T:** Well, visually it’s absolutely stunning, the opening scene particularly. All the animals – giraffes, wildebeest, zebra, antelope – congregate on the stage to set the scene, which is the plains of the Serengeti where the story takes place. And they’re in these fabulous costumes: they’re difficult to describe but the effect is that they actually seem to move like real animals. Everyone in the audience was spellbound …

**J:** But is the story the same as in the Disney film? I remember there were a couple of rather annoying characters in the film, like that bird, who’s supposed to be there for comic effect, well at least I think it is, but actually after a while they begin to annoy you.

**T:** You mean Zazu. Yeah, I know what you mean about that kind of Disney character – often they can get on your nerves – but this production’s different. It actually seems much more adult than the film … It’s very well-done. I found the story really moving.

**J:** Mmm … and what about the music?

**T:** It’s essentially the same score as the film – I think Elton John wrote most of it, but it’s all based on African rhythms and vocals …

**J:** Doesn’t really sound like my kind of thing.

**T:** Oh … well, I’ve got a lot of time for Elton John. I think he catches the mood of this really well. Have you heard *Circle of Life*?

**J:** Er … no, I don’t think so …

**T:** Well, I’m not going to sing it … anyway I really recommend it. It’s not cheap to go but if you get a chance you should. I can’t bear the high prices they charge for musicals these days, but actually I didn’t mind for this one … it was worth it.

Life